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EXAMINER

RUTTEN, JAMES D

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

DETAILED ACTION

1. The reply filed 3/15/2010 has been fully considered. Claims 1-4, 6-13, 15-21, and 23-37 are pending and have been examined.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments filed 3/15/2010 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

3. On pages 8-9 filed 3/15/2010, Applicant essentially argues, with respect to claim 1, that prior art of record Robinson fails to teach initiating compilation in advance of a request from a user to compile the file as generally claimed. Applicant suggests that Robinson only teaches parsing text in advance of a request, and so does not teach the limitations of claim 1. However, the plain language of Robinson teaches "a compiler that continually works in the background." Note that Robinson uses the word "compiler," but does not mention "parser." Applicant has not persuasively argues that Robinson teaches parsing, but not compiling. Furthermore, for the sake of argument, even if Robinson only taught parsing, it still provides a teaching of background computation, which when coupled with the compilation of prior art of record McKeeman's compilation, would teach the claimed limitations.

4. On pages 9-10, Applicant argues with respect to claim 1, that prior art of record McKeeman fails to disclose indicating a status of the compilation in response to detecting the user request. More particularly, Applicant essentially argues that McKeeman does not indicate the status of the compilation prior to performing the compilation. In response to applicant's argument that the references fail to show certain features of applicant's invention, it is noted that the features upon which applicant relies (i.e., indicate the status of the compilation of the file in response to detecting the user request, and *prior to performing the compilation*) are not recited in the rejected claim(s). Although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993).

5. On page 11, Applicant argues that McKeeman fails to disclose initiating compilation in response to determining that the file has been modified. The previous action cited McKeeman col. 5, lines 21-23 which when read in the context of the surrounding passage, describes initiating compilation only of code modules which have been modified. A reasonable broad interpretation of the claim language allows McKeeman to teach the claimed limitations.

6. Further arguments of pages 11-12 are based on previous arguments as addressed above, and are not persuasive for the same reasons provided.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

7. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

8. Claims 9-13 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,193,191 (McKeeman et al.).

As per claim 9, *McKeeman et al.* discloses an article comprising one or more machine-readable storage media containing instructions (see, e.g., col. 8, lines 6-39) that when executed enable a processor to:

initiate compiling of a file including one or more code segments (see, e.g., col. 11, lines 44-61 (recompilation uses previously compiled code);

detect a user request to compile the file (see, e.g., *Id.* (recompilation is started));
and

provide a result associated with the compiling in response to detecting the user request (see, e.g., col. 5, lines 23-34 (errors are detected and reported));

wherein the instructions when executed enable the processor to initiate compiling of the file based on determining that the file was modified (see, e.g., col. 5, lines 21-23).

As per claim 10, *McKeeman et al.* further discloses the instructions when executed enable the processor to display a message to a user indicating that one or more errors were detected during the compiling (see, e.g., col. 5, lines 23-34 (errors are detected and reported)).

As per claim 11, *McKeeman et al.* further discloses the instructions when executed enable the processor to indicate to a user that the compiling was successful (see, e.g., col. 5, lines 23-34 (errors are detected and reported; if no errors are detected, then object code is produced as input to the linker)).

As per claim 12, *McKeeman et al.* further discloses the instructions when executed enable the processor to generate a file containing object code based on compiling the file and to store the object code file in a temporary location (see, e.g., col. 5, lines 30-34).

As per claim 13, *McKeeman et al.* further discloses the instructions when executed enable the processor to move the object code file from the temporary location into a product location based on determining that the compiling of the file was successful and in response to detecting the user request (see, e.g., col. 5, lines 23-34 (errors are detected

and reported; if no errors are detected, then object code is produced as input to the linker)).

As per claim 15, *McKeeman et al.* further discloses the instructions that when executed enable the processor to initiate compiling of the file based on determining that the file was modified comprise instructions that when executed enable the processor to indicate in a work queue that the file has been modified and to initiate compiling of the file in response to detecting the indication (see, e.g., col. 11, lines 44-61).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

9. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

10. Claims 1-4, 6-8, 16-21, 23-29, 31-32, and 34-37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,193,191 (*McKeeman et al.*) in view of "Upgrading Microsoft Visual Basic 6.0 to Microsoft Visual Basic .NET" by (Robinson et al.).

As per claim 1, *McKeeman et al.* discloses:

initiating compilation of a file in a processor-based system ... (see, e.g., col. 11, lines 44-61 (recompilation uses previously compiled code));

McKeeman et al. does not expressly disclose: in advance of a request from a user to compile the file. However, *Robinson et al.* teaches background compilation in advance of a compilation request (see page 16 "Visual Basic .NET has a compiler that continually works in the background.") It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the compilation of *McKeeman et al.* with the background compiler of *Robinson et al.* in order to provide a timely indication of errors as suggested by *Robinson et al.*.

detecting the user request to compile the file (see, e.g., *Id.* (recompilation is started)); and

indicating a status of the compilation of the file in response to detecting the user request (see, e.g., col. 5, lines 23-34 (errors are detected and reported));

wherein initiating compilation of the file comprises compiling the file in response to determining that the file has been modified (see, e.g., col. 5, lines 21-23).

As per claim 2, *McKeeman et al.* further discloses initiating compilation of the file comprising compiling the file including one or more code segments to produce an object code file (see, e.g., col. 5, lines 30-34).

As per claim 3, *McKeeman et al.* further discloses compiling the file comprising compiling one or more code segments in the file to produce an object code file, and further comprising linking the object code file to produce an executable file (see, e.g., col. 5, lines 37-46).

As per claim 4, *McKeeman et al.* further discloses indicating the status of the compilation of the file comprising at least one of indicating that the compilation was successful and indicating that the compilation was unsuccessful (see, e.g., col. 5, lines 23-34).

As per claim 6, *McKeeman et al.* further discloses determining that the file has been modified comprising determining that the modified file has been saved to a storage unit (see, e.g., col. 5, lines 18-23).

As per claim 7, *McKeeman et al.* further discloses the file including one or more code segments, wherein initiating compilation of the file in response to determining that the file has been modified comprises:

identifying the modified file in a work queue (see, e.g., col. 11, lines 44-61); and
initiating the compilation of the file based on the modified file being identified in the work queue (see, e.g., col. 11, lines 44-61).

As per claim 8, *McKeeman et al.* further discloses indicating the status of the compilation of the file comprising generating one or more files associated with the

compilation of the file, storing the one or more generated files in a temporary location, and transferring the one or more files from the temporary location to a different location in response to detecting the user request (see, e.g., col. 5, lines 30-34).

As per claim 16, *McKeeman et al.* discloses an apparatus (see, e.g., col. 8, lines 6-39), comprising:

means for initiating compilation of a file in a processor-based system ...(see, e.g., col. 11, lines 44-61 (recompilation uses previously compiled code));

McKeeman does not expressly disclose: in advance of a request from a user. However, *Robinson et al.* teaches background compilation in advance of a compilation request (see page 16 "Visual Basic .NET has a compiler that continually works in the background.") It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the compilation of *McKeeman et al.* with the background compiler of *Robinson et al.* in order to provide a timely indication of errors as suggested by *Robinson et al.*.

means for detecting the user request to compile the file (see, e.g., *Id.* (recompilation is started)); and

means for indicating a status of the compilation of the file in response to detecting the user request (see, e.g., col. 5, lines 23-34 (errors are detected and reported));

wherein the means for initiating compilation initiate compiling the file based on determining that the file was modified (see, e.g., col. 5, lines 18-23; col. 13, lines 42-54).

McKeeman et al. further discloses a machine-readable storage media containing instructions for implementing the recited functionality (see, e.g., col. 8, lines 6-39).

As per claim 17, *McKeeman et al.* discloses an apparatus (see, e.g., col. 8, lines 6-39), comprising:

a storage unit having a file stored therein (see, e.g., col. 8, lines 6-39); and
a control unit communicatively coupled to the storage unit (see, e.g., col. 8, lines 6-39), the control unit adapted to:

initiate compilation of the file (see, e.g., col. 11, lines 44-61 (recompilation uses previously compiled code));

McKeeman does not expressly disclose: in advance of a request from a user to compile the file. However, *Robinson et al.* teaches background compilation in advance of a compilation request (see page 16 "Visual Basic .NET has a compiler that continually works in the background.") It would have been

obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the compilation of *McKeeman et al.* with the background compiler of *Robinson et al.* in order to provide a timely indication of errors as suggested by *Robinson et al.*.

detect the user request to compile the file (see, e.g., *Id.* (recompilation is started)); and

indicate a status of the compilation of the file in response to detecting the user request (see, e.g., col. 5, lines 23-34 (errors are detected and reported));

wherein the control unit is adapted to compile the file in response to determining that the file has been modified (see, e.g., col. 5, lines 18-23; col. 13, lines 42-54).

As per claim 18, *McKeeman et al.* discloses the control unit is adapted to compile a file including one or more code segments to produce an object code file (see, e.g., col. 5, lines 30-34).

As per claim 19, *McKeeman et al.* discloses the control unit is adapted to link the object code file to produce an executable file (see, e.g., col. 5, lines 37-46).

As per claim 20, *McKeeman et al.* discloses the control unit is adapted to store the executable file in a temporary location and to transfer the executable file from the

temporary location to a different location based on detecting the user request (see, e.g., col. 5, lines 30-34).

As per claim 21, *McKeeman et al.* discloses the control unit is adapted to at least one of indicate that the compilation was successful and indicate that the compilation was unsuccessful (see, e.g., col. 5, lines 23-34).

As per claim 23, *McKeeman et al.* discloses the control adaptation to compile the file in response to determining that the file has been modified comprises:

an adaptation to identify the modified file in a work queue (see, e.g., col. 11, lines 44-61); and

an adaptation to initiate the processing of the file based on the modified file being identified in the work queue (see, e.g., col. 11, lines 44-61).

As per claim 24, *McKeeman et al.* discloses:

identifying one or more source files that have been modified in a processor-based system (see, e.g., col. 5, lines 18-23; col. 13, lines 42-54);

initiating processing of at least a portion of the modified source files (see, e.g., col. 11, lines 44-61);

McKeeman does not expressly disclose: before receiving a request to process the modified files. However, *Robinson et al.* teaches background compilation in advance of a

compilation request (see page 16 "Visual Basic .NET has a compiler that continually works in the background.") It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the compilation of *McKeeman et al.* with the background compiler of *Robinson et al.* in order to provide a timely indication of errors as suggested by *Robinson et al.*.

receiving the request to process at least one of the modified files (see, e.g., col. 11, lines 44-61 (recompilation uses previously compiled code)); and

providing a status associated with the processing of the file in response to receiving the request (see, e.g., col. 5, lines 23-34 (errors are detected and reported)).

As per claim 25, *McKeeman et al.* further discloses the processor-based system is adapted to execute an integrated development environment module (see, e.g., col. 3, lines 53-56), wherein identifying the one or more files comprises the integrated development environment module placing the one or more of the source files that have been modified in a queue (see, e.g., col. 11, lines 44-61).

As per claim 26, *McKeeman et al.* further discloses placing the one or more of the source files in the queue comprises placing at least one source file in the queue in response to a user saving the source file to a storage unit (see, e.g., col. 5, lines 18-23).

As per claim 27, *McKeeman et al.* further discloses placing the one or more of the source files in the queue comprises placing at least a portion of one source file in the queue in response to a user saving the source file to a storage unit using an editor and then exiting from the editor (see, e.g., col. 17, lines 11-36).

As per claim 28, *McKeeman et al.* further discloses placing the one or more of the source files in the queue comprises placing at least one source file in the queue in response to determining that a user desires to compile at least a portion of the source file as the source file is being edited (see, e.g., col. 5, lines 15-17; col. 11, lines 44-61).

As per claim 29, *McKeeman et al.* further discloses placing the one or more of the source files in the queue comprises placing at least one source file in the queue in response to determining that the source file includes at least one marker identifying a section of the source file that should be compiled, and wherein initiating processing of at least the portion of the one or more modified files comprises compiling the identified section of the source file (see, e.g., col. 11, lines 44-61).

As per claim 31, *McKeeman et al.* further discloses initiating the processing comprises initiating a build process to produce a software application and wherein receiving the request comprises receiving the request to building the software application (see, e.g., col. 5, lines 15-17).

As per claim 32, *McKeeman et al.* further discloses initiating the build process comprises performing compiling the modified source files to produce object code files and linking the object code files to produce executable files (see, e.g., col. 5, lines 37-46).

As per claim 34, *McKeeman et al.* further discloses suppressing at least one of an error and warning that is detected while compiling the modified source files (see, e.g., col. 5, lines 23-34 (errors are detected and reported)).

As per claim 35, *McKeeman et al.* further discloses the object code files and the executable files are moved to a different storage location in response to detecting the request and in response to detecting no error or warning (see, e.g., col. 5, lines 23-34 (errors are detected and reported; if no errors are detected, then object code is produced as input to the linker)).

As per claim 36, *McKeeman et al.* further discloses identifying one or more source files comprises identifying the one or more source files based on a directed acyclic graph (see, e.g., col. 16, 54-63).

As per claim 37, *McKeeman et al.* further discloses the directed acyclic graph includes a list of dependent files, wherein identifying one or more source files comprises identifying at least one modified source file and another source file that is dependent on the modified source file using the directed acyclic graph (see, e.g., col. 16, 54-63).

11. Claim 30 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over McKeeman et al. and Robinson et al. as applied above, and further in view of U.S. Pat. App. Pub. No. 2005/0108682 (Piehler et al.).

As per claim 30, *McKeeman et al.* discloses such a method (see the rejection of claims 24 and 25 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)) but fails to expressly disclose initiating the processing of the modified source files comprises causing a background thread to awaken in response to placing the one or more of the source files in the queue, where the background thread thereafter initiates processing of the source files. However, *Piehler et al.* teaches such use of a background thread to enqueue a task for itself to complete the rest of the compilation in a background thread as part of a response to a new file being added to a project or an existing file being modified (*Piehler et al.* at paragraphs [0170] through [0180]. Therefore, it would have been obvious to include such background thread use as per the teachings of *Piehler et al.* One would be motivated to do so to gain the advantage of providing immediate feedback to the user without any detectable visible delay in typing responsiveness while the compiler finishes processing the change (*Piehler et al.* at paragraph [0174]).

12. Claim 33 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over McKeeman et al. and Robinson et al. as applied above, and further in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,230,313 (Callahan, II et al.).

As per claim 33, *McKeeman et al.* further discloses placing the one or more of the source files in the queue comprising placing at least one source file in the queue in response to determining that the source file includes ...[markers] identifying a section of the source file that should be compiled, wherein the ... marker defines the beginning of the portion of the source file and the ... marker defines the end of the portion, and wherein initiating processing of at least the portion of the one or more modified files comprises compiling the identified section of the source file (see, e.g., col. 16, line 60, through col. 17, line 6 (the compiler of *McKeeman* can identify changed portions (having a defined beginning and end) within a source code file and recompile only those changed portions)). *McKeeman* does not expressly disclose: at least two markers. However, *Callahan, II et al.* teaches the use of markers at the beginning and end of a region of interest (see column 10 lines 10-25). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use *McKeeman*'s markers with *Callahan*'s teaching of multiple markers in order to easily identify regions of interest as suggested by *Callahan*.

Conclusion

13. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Matthew Gertz, "Advanced Basics; Scaling Up: The Very Busy Background Compiler," Microsoft Corp., MSDN Magazine, June 2005, 4 pages, discusses in more detail the implementation of the VB.NET background compiler and the changes in its design from the VISUAL BASIC .NET 2002 development environment to the VISUAL BASIC .NET 2005 development environment.

U.S. 2005/0114771 (Piehler et al.) (claiming the benefit to provisional application 60/449,984, filed February 26, 2003) discloses an editor and compiler integrated with a re-tokenizer that allows incremental compilation of code in the background as the user types it in the editor (paragraphs [0165] through [0176]).

14. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

15. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JAMES RUTTEN whose telephone number is (571)272-3703. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 10:00-6:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tuan Q. Dam can be reached on (571)272-3695. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/J. Derek Rutten/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2192